

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the following remarks and arguments, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-67 were originally presented for consideration in this Rule 53(b) application, with Claims 1-24, 29-39 and 47-67 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and Claim 25 having been rewritten in independent form, in applicant's November 10, 2003 Preliminary Amendment accompanying this Rule 53(b) divisional application. Accordingly, only Claims 25-28 and 40-46 are now present in this application.

The Examiner's allowance of Claims 40-46, and his indication that Claims 25-28 contain patentable subject matter, are noted with appreciation. Since, in the Preliminary Amendment accompanying this application, Claim 25 was rewritten in independent form, objected-to Claims 25-28 are seen to clearly be in a condition for allowance.

The Examiner's substantive rejection of claims 1-6, 8, 9, 14, 15, 19, 29-33, 37-39, 47-49, 51, 52, 54, 59-63, 66 and 67, and his double patenting rejection of Claims 29-33 and 37-39, are moot since all of these rejected claims were canceled prior to the examination of this application.

In view of the foregoing amendment, remarks and arguments, all of the claims currently pending in this application are now seen to be in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance of Claims 25-28 and 40-46 is therefore earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is hereby requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at 972/516-0030 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: JANUARY 13, 2005

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

on JANUARY 13, 2005
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